



Attorney Docket No. 50277-1767

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors: David J. Long, et al.

Confirmation No.: 3700

Serial No.: 10/040,500

Examiner: Pham, C.

Filing Date: December 28, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2151

Title: CATEGORIES ON A PER INSTANCE BASIS

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

The Examiner is hereby notified that for the following related application an Office Action has been received as indicated below:

U.S. Application/ Pat. No.	File Date	Office Action Mailing Date	Atty. Docket. No.
10/040,499	12/28/2001	3/28/2005	50277-1768

The related application contains one or more claims that may be substantially similar to one or more claims in the present application, those claims may have been rejected in the related application, and a different interpretation may have been applied to one or more of the references that are of record in the present application. Therefore, the Examiner is encouraged to review the file history of the related application as some of the information contained therein may be material to the examination of the present application.

Enclosed is a copy of Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO-1449 together with copies of the documents cited on that form. It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be considered and that the enclosed Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO-1449 be initialed by the Examiner to indicate such consideration and a copy thereof returned to applicants.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed as an admission that the information cited in this statement is material to patentability.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) and includes the following statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2):

The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

Throughout the pendency of this application, please charge any additional fees, including any required extension of time fees, and credit all overpayments to deposit account 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

Dated: 4/12/05

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on  
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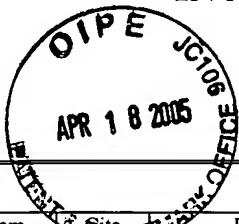
Darci Sakamoto

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Darci Sakamoto

(Signature of person mailing correspondence)

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION**



**ATTY. DOCKET NO.**  
**50277-1767**

**SERIAL NO.**  
10/040-500

**APPLICANT:**  
David J. Long et al.

**FILING DATE:**  
December 28, 2001

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Exam. Initial*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>				

#### **OTHER ART - NO PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

CITATION - NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	Translation <sup>2</sup>

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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard S.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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